

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the following claims which are pending in the present application:

1. (Currently amended) A device for driving away insects moving along the ground, comprising;

a support element made from an electrical insulating material having a first leg, a second leg, and a protective element;
at least two electrical conductive elements arranged spaced-apart parallel to one another on the support element, between which an electrical voltage can be applied by means of a voltage source,

wherein a distance between the conductive elements is smaller than a length of one of the insects to be driven away, so that the insects, upon passing the support element in a direction transverse to the conductive elements forms a current-conducting connection between the conductive elements, and wherein the conductive elements run vertically offset at different heights, and wherein between a lower most conductive element and a surface lying thereunder, at least one minimal height difference is provided; and

[[a]]the protective element extending at least partially downward and forming an intermediate chamber above the conductive elements to protect the conductive elements from moisture;

the second leg extending in a downward direction and forming the

intermediate chamber with the protective element, wherein an intermediate space is sealed between the second leg and a mounting surface when a lower edge of the second leg contacts the mounting surface; and

the first leg having the protective element and the second leg located on a distal end of the first leg, wherein the support element forms a F-shaped strip.

2. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the support element is formed as a smooth surface on a side of the conductive elements.
3. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein a connecting surface extends upwardly between the conductive elements or hangs over [[the]]an underlying surface.
- 4-5. (Canceled)
6. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the support element is formed in the manner of an elastically deformable film at least along its longitudinal axis running parallel to the conductive elements.
7. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the

support element is formed in the manner of a stably formed profile strip, whose lower end can be pressed into the ground.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein the mounting surface is located on a barrier device is formed in the manner of a square timber.

10. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein on [[the]]a barrier device having the mounting surface, a film extending downwardly into the ground is attached.

11. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein the support element is formed in the manner of an angular profile, wherein on [[the]]an outer side of one of the legs, the conductive elements are arranged, and wherein [[the]]an inner sides of both legs, upon attachment of the support element, come into contact at least partially on the mounting surface of a barrier device.

12. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 11, wherein at least one leg of the angular profile has recesses, in order to attach the profile strip by mounting of attachment means, in particular, screws or nails, to the barrier.

13. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 11, wherein the inner sides of the ~~two~~first and second legs of the angular profile form an angle less than 90°, wherein both first and second legs are connected at least partly elastically deformably with one another.

14. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 11, wherein on the lower end of one of the legs, an elastic sealing element is formed.

15. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the end of the support element can be connected by means of a coupling device with a further profile strip, whereby an electrical connection between associated conductive elements is formed.

16. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 15, wherein the coupling device can be attached to the ends of the support element.

17. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the conductive elements have a spacing of 5 to 50 mm.

18. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the conductive elements are formed by conductive wires.

19. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein between the conductive elements, a supply voltage of 200V to 5000V is applied.

20. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein with formation of a current-conducting connection between the conductive elements, a current with a power of 0.1 to 0.6 Joules flows.

21. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the support element is made from thermoplastic plastic.

22. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein on the device, four conductive elements are provided, which extend parallel to one another along the longitudinal axis of the device.

23. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein conductive elements adjacent to one another are connected with different polarity to the voltage source.

24. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the conductive elements are formed to be wavy along their longitudinal axes.

25. (Previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein the conductive elements are formed to have a forked section along their longitudinal axes.

26. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 1, wherein [[the]]a forked section of the conductive elements run at an angle of 5° to 22°.